

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1534 - SB 2536

January 29, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes sentencing credits to be awarded for a high school equivalency credential rather than for a graduate equivalency diploma.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Under current law, Tenn. Code Ann. § 41-21-236(a)(2)(B)(i), the Department of Correction shall provide an educational good time credit of 60 days to any qualifying prisoner who successfully receives a graduate equivalency diploma (GED®) or a high school diploma.
- The bill would allow the credit for any prisoner that successfully receives a high school equivalency credential, not just those that specifically receive a GED.
- It is assumed that few prisoners currently receive a high school equivalency credential rather than a GED. It is further assumed that the bill will not result in a significant number of additional prisoners receiving the sentencing credits than currently receive the credits under current law.
- The Department of Correction confirms that the bill will not significantly impact incarcerations.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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